

Travel Notes

By THE CANADIAN PRESS

Special itinerary set

The Hebridean Princess, which cruises the West Coast of Scotland on luxury summer itineraries, offers a special itinerary this season with a 13-night cruise out of Oban that can be made in separate six and seven-night segments. The 13-night Oban-to-Oban itinerary starts July 18. The six-night segment from Oban to Avonmouth starts July 24. Details from Goldman Marketing Strategy Inc., 69 Yonge St. Ste. 1002, Toronto, Ont., M5E 1K3 or phone 1-416-364-4353 or toll free at 1-800-561-1366.

Tour touts Russian history

Toronto-based Hospitality Tours has arranged a Russian Waterways cruise from Aug. 15-30. The tour focuses on Russian art and architecture. Rates for the trip start at \$3,724 per person, double, and range up to \$4,854 depending on accommodation aboard the 270-passenger Odessa America Andropov. Costs include return air fare from Toronto, transfers, the two-week cruise between Moscow and St. Petersburg with all meals and celebrations. Hospitality Tours is at 180 Bloor St. W., Toronto, Ont., M5C 2V6. Phone 1-416-968-3481.

Medical needs met

Travellers reticent about taking a cruise because of health concerns are one of the many target markets sought by the Holland America Cruise Line. Each of its vessels has a medical clinic where emphasis is placed on cardiac care. Each ship has at least one physician and three registered nurses who are licensed to practice in either the U.S. or Canada. The Holland America medical department has prepared a brochure for travellers. Ask your travel agent.

Princess takes reservations

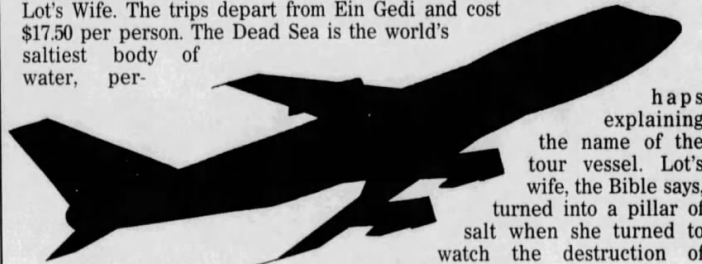
Princess Cruises is taking reservations for a Total Solar Eclipse Cruise Feb. 21, 1998, on the new Dawn Princess. The seven-day southern Caribbean cruise will call at Aruba on Feb. 26 when the total eclipse will take place around 2:05 p.m. The Dawn Princess, a 14-storey vessel that will displace Carnival's Destiny as the largest cruise ship, begins sailing next fall. Fares for the Eclipse Tour start at \$1,049.

Cruise line buys island

The Holland America cruise line has bought the 970 hectare, uninhabited island of Little San Salvador in the Bahamas and will turn it into a shore stop for its passengers with shopping, dining and beach activities. Opening date for the new facility, to be known as Half Moon Cay, is this December. The island, which is regarded in the Bahamas as one of its most beautiful, is about 150 kilometres southeast of Nassau. The island will also have a fully equipped children's playground and a network of nature trails.

Sail the Dead Sea with Lot's wife

An Israeli company is featuring 75-minute cruises on the Dead Sea, the lowest point on Earth, on a 110-passenger wooden boat called Lot's Wife. The trips depart from Ein Gedi and cost \$17.50 per person. The Dead Sea is the world's saltiest body of water, per-



Sodom and Gomorrah.
(Compiled by Dennis Harper, CP)